

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method of generating a structure representation describing a specific automation system from a model structure representation describing a general automation system, wherein the model structure representation has a structured representation of functional groups in the general automation system and respective links to one another, and each functional group is assignable one or more components of the specific automation system, the method which comprises the following steps:

providing a text file representing the model structure representation to a data processing device that controls the specific automation system;

determining, with the data processing device, those components of the specific automation system that are jointly assignable to a functional group in the model structure representation; and

entering the components ascertained in the determining step into the model structure representation to generate the structure representation describing the specific automation system.

Claim 16 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein instructions contained in the text file prompt the data processing device to check only selected functional groups to determine whether a plurality of components of the specific automation system are jointly assignable to the functional group.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The method according to claim 15, wherein:

~~wherein~~ the determining step comprises sending an electronic query to the respective components or to a common control device that is superordinate to the respective components; and

the method further comprises responding, with the respective components or with the superordinate common control device, to the electronic query by sending an electronic response to the data processing device with a respectively unique identification key.

Claim 18 (currently amended). The method according to claim 17, wherein components of the specific automation system ~~the~~ can each be jointly assigned to a functional group in the model structure representation ~~use~~ using identification keys of a common type when sending the electronic response.

Claim 19 (previously presented). The method according to claim 17, wherein the responding step comprises transmitting further data characterizing the respective components with the electronic response.

Claim 20 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, which comprises also determining a component for a functional group that is assignable a single component and entering the single component into the model structure representation to complete the structure representation describing the specific automation system.

Claim 21 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, which comprises addressing the respective components of the specific automation system with the data processing device using a component path that contains at least one identification for the respective component.

Claim 22 (previously presented). The method according to claim 21, which comprises:

ascertaining, with the data processing device, information that is typical of a component of a functional group or that is common to a plurality of components of a functional group by generating from the relevant component path a type path indicating the relevant functional group; and

using the type path with the data processing device to read the information for the relevant functional group from the text file.

Claim 23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (currently amended). The method according to ~~claim 21~~ claim 22, which comprises formulating the component path and the type path with the language XPath.

Claim 25 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, which comprises converting the structure representation describing the specific automation system into a graphical representation by the data processing device.

Claim 26 (previously presented). The method according to claim 25, which comprises displaying the graphical representation based on the structure representation on a user device associated with the data processing device.

Claim 27 (previously presented). The method according to claim 25, which comprises converting the structure representation into the graphical representation, and displaying the graphical representation using a browser device on a user device.

Claim 28 (previously presented). The method according to claim 15, which comprises using XML for the text file representing the model structure representation.

Claim 29 (new). A method of generating a structure representation describing a specific automation system from a model structure representation describing a general automation system, wherein the model structure representation has a structured representation of functional groups in the general automation system and respective links to one another, and each functional group is assignable one or more components of the specific automation system, the method which comprises the following steps:

providing a text file representing the model structure representation to a data processing device that controls the specific automation system;

determining, with the data processing device, those components of the specific automation system that are jointly assignable to a functional group in the model structure representation;

entering the components ascertained in the determining step into the model structure representation to generate the structure representation describing the specific automation system;

addressing the respective components of the specific automation system with the data processing device using a component path that contains at least one identification for the respective component;

ascertaining, with the data processing device, information that is typical of a component of a functional group or that is common to a plurality of components of a functional group by generating from the relevant component path a type path indicating the relevant functional group, thereby generating the type path from the component path by removing the at least one identification for the respective component from the component path to form the type path; and

using the type path with the data processing device to read the information for the relevant functional group from the text file.